

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 5, 8 to 16, 19 to 27, 30 to 38, and 41 to 44 were pending in the application at the time of the advisory action. In the final action, Claims 2, 5, 11, 13, 16, 22, 24, 27, 33, 35, 38, and 44 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112 set forth and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants' attorney acknowledges a telephonic interview with the Examiner on January 14, 2008 in which the objected to claims were discussed. The Examiner indicated that a further search would be required if the objected to claims were incorporated into the corresponding independent claims. Applicants agreed to file the claim amendments with an RCE. The Examiner also requested that "including" in the objected to claims be changed to "comprising" and Applicants agreed to make this change.

Each of the objected to claims has been incorporated into the corresponding independent claim and the objected to claim has been cancelled. In addition, Applicants amended the claims to more precisely recite the entity that performed each process in the claims. These amendments are supported at least by Figs. 8 to 10 and the accompanying description. Therefore, based on the objection, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable.

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Appl. No. 10/672,698

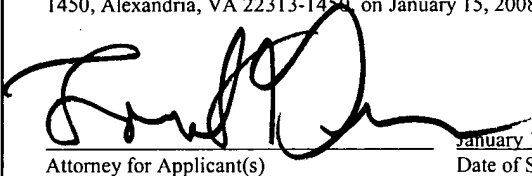
Amdt. dated January 15, 2008

Reply to Advisory Action of December 27, 2007

Claims 1, 3 to 4, 8 to 10, 12, 14, 15, 19 to 21, 23, 25, 26, 30 to 32, 34, 36, 37, and 41 to 43 remain in the application. Claims 1, 3, 8, 12, 14, 19, 23, 25, 30, 34, 36, and 41 are amended. Claims 2, 5 to 7, 11, 13, 16 to 18, 22, 24, 27 to 29, 33, 35, 38 to 40 and 44 to 48 have been cancelled. For the foregoing reasons, Applicant(s) respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 15, 2008.



Attorney for Applicant(s)

January 15, 2008
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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